



# EVERGLADE KITE

## newsletter

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

volume 57, number 7 - April 2017

### ASE FIELD TRIPS CALENDAR

April 2017

- 01 Sat (7:30a-12p) **STA-1E**, Easy/Drive, **RR** (Linda Humphries)
- 02 Sun (8a-10a) **Tall Cypress**, Easy/Short (Bruce Pickholtz)
- 04 Tue (7:30a-10a) **Peaceful Waters**, Moderate/Medium (Scott Zucker)
- 08 Sat (8:15a-11:15a) **Riverbend Park (Birding by Bike)**, Easy/Long, Bike rental opens at 8am; No skinny tires (Vicki Rogerson)
- 08 Sat (10:30a-2p) **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)**, Easy/Drive, **RR** (Susan McKemy) - **WAITLIST ONLY**
- 08 Sat (3:30p-7p) **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)**, Easy/Drive, **RR** (Susan McKemy) - **WAITLIST ONLY**
- 09 Sun (8a-10a) **Seacrest Scrub**, Moderate/Medium (John & Chadda Shelly)
- 09 Sun (8a-10a) **Wakodahatchee** Easy/Short (Chris Golia)
- 12 Wed (7:30a-11:30a) **Loxahatchee NWR**, Moderate/Long, \$ (Rick Schofield)
- 14 Fri (8:30a-10:30a) **Peaceful Waters**, Easy/Medium (Clive Pinnock) - **NEW DATE**
- 15 Sat (8a-10a) **Mangrove Park (Plus+)**, Easy/Short (Linda Humphries)
- 15 Sat (8a-10a) **Spanish River Park**, Easy/Medium, \$ (Lee & David Hasse)
- 18 Tue Peaceful Waters(Clive Pinnock) - CANCELLED**
- 21 Fri (8a-10a) **Wakodahatchee**, Easy/Short (Valleri Brauer)
- 22 Sat (8a-10a) **Frenchman's Forest**, Moderate/Medium (Melanie & Steve Garcia)
- 22 Sat (8a-10a) **Lantana Nature Preserve**, Easy/Short (Dorothy Brindle)
- 22 Sat (10:30a-2p) **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)**, Easy/Drive, **RR** (Susan McKemy) - **WAITLIST ONLY**
- April field trip list continued on page 3...

### Annual MEETING - Pot Luck Dinner

Tuesday, April 4, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 7:00 meeting

#### LECTURE: SPEAKER TO BE DETERMINED

► Please check web site for details

***Our By laws state: The notice of the annual meeting shall include a slate of officers and directors due to be elected that year as proposed by the nominating committee under Article VII of these bylaws, and a budget proposed by the board of directors under Article VI for a fiscal year running from April 1 to March 31. The agenda of the meeting must include election of officers and directors due to be elected that year, and the adoption of the budget.***

The Annual Meeting this year will elect Directors (next year the election will include Officers). The Nominating Committee (Linda Humphries, Lori Pasco and Valerie Brauer) has put forth the following slate of Directors At Large: Sean Borak, Gerry Felipe, Anne Hctor, Linda McCandless, Eric Ray, Vicki Rogerson, Debbie Smith, Susan Snyder, Marcia Yeip, and Mary Young. Additional names to be considered for Directors must be received by Linda Humphries ([hlinda@aol.com](mailto:hlinda@aol.com)) by April 2nd. Proxies: *If you are not able to attend ASE's annual meeting and wish to vote by proxy, please contact Paton White ([prwase@gmail.com](mailto:prwase@gmail.com) 561-818-7574).*

Additionally, the proposed budget, a copy of which which can be viewed on page 3, will be proposed and adopted by vote.

Clive Pinnock, our expert, will also speak about the April Bird of the Month, Limpkin.

Our Annual Meeting will be a pot luck dinner and is open to the public. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., the food will be served at 6:00 p.m., and the annual meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. People with last names beginning with A-J please bring desserts, K-R bring a main dish, S-Z bring salads and veggies. Please bring ready-to-serve food; we have no kitchen. We will supply the drinks. Paton White has donated a large orchid arrangement for a special raffle, and all raffle ticket buyers will receive a surprise gift. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

## President's Letter ■■■ Paton White

To all our members: I want you to know how much we appreciate you! Your dues help us support birds and the environment and create new programs. In return, we work to educate, entertain, and inspire you. If you have not already done so, remember that it is time to renew.

**1. Everglades Day.** The 17th annual Everglades Day broke attendance records: 4006 people! Susan Snyder, one of the founding members of the event, again did a fabulous job. Vicki Rogerson, ably helped from start to finish by Karen Lindquist, created magic for ASE's migration game participants. Debbie Smith, Marcia Yeip, Anne Hctor, Mary Young, Judy Munro, C. J. McCartney, and Louann Dillon all worked for several hours.

**2. The Budget Committee.** Under the able leadership of your treasurer Louann Dillon, committee members Cathy Hanson, Anne Hctor, Linda McCandless and Paton White created the budget you will find on the opposite page

**3. Community Outreach.** Debbie Smith has been busy all winter. This month she did the Naturescaping event at MacArthur Beach State Park with Susan Snyder as well as the Sea Turtle Awareness Month at Gumbo Limbo. Vicki Rogerson ran the Great Migration Challenge at John Prince Park, helped by Sue Revie (all day), Anne Hctor, Kat Rahla and Fred Quan. Over 250 people participated! 64% of the migrations were successful and 36% unsuccessful, due to avian diseases, cats, and collisions with towers. Vicki is receiving many requests to offer this event at festivals!

**4. Conservation Stewardship Training Course.** Congratulations to Scott Zucker, Mary Young, and Paul Davis for creating a signature program that can be adapted by other chapters around the country! By the time you read this, one session will have taken place. Enrollment is almost full.

**5. Nominating.** Be sure to see the slate of at-large directors that Linda Humphries, Valerie Bruner and Lori Pasco will present at the April Annual Meeting (page 1). Linda, Gail Tomei and Susan Davis are all retiring from the board but will continue in leadership roles for ASE's programs. Each of them has been a vital member of our board and will be missed.

### April Bird of the Month: Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) SSC

Eats apple snails. What else do you need to know? Well, it's on the cover of Stevenson and Anderson's *Birdlife of Florida* (1994), which is still the most comprehensive source of information about Florida's avifauna. Limpkin is one of the loudest birds you'll ever hear, and, if you remember old Tarzan movies and other jungle films or television episodes, you'll probably have heard its shrill k-k-k-keeeeeooooowww in the background.

It's a tall brown bird with very long grayish-brown legs, largish white chevrons on the body that become smaller and more numerous on the neck until they look just like brown-and-white streaks, and a "comically tiny" (Pete Dunne) head. Taxonomically it's somewhere between a crane and a rail, although it looks more like an ibis with a longer and slightly straighter bill. Although the Limpkin's bill is not actually straight—in fact, the bills of some individuals are somewhat curved from left to right, perhaps as an adaptation to opening the shells of the snails on which it feeds - it is slightly open, a trait common to only one other bird family in the world, called, appropriately, the openbills. Limpkins tend to hold its unusual bill vertically, rather than horizontally like the ibises.

Although they are locally abundant along our south Florida canals and waterways, Limpkins are a species of special concern for the FWC. The North American population is almost entirely restricted to Florida, with some slight spillover into Georgia.

Etymological note: it's possible that the genus name *Aramus* derives from the Greek word for heron, perhaps because of its resemblance to birds in the family Ardeidae. The specific epithet, *guarauna*, comes from a native Venezuelan tribe (the Warrau) which lives where these birds are abundant. *by Ben Kolstad*



Photograph of Limpkins by Paul Thomas

# AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

PROPOSED BUDGET

## EXPENSES continued

### Programs continued

Archive (PBC Hist. Society)	0	1,000
Communications	0	1,000
Donations Made	2,000	3,000
Field Trip Expenses	3,000	3,300
Hospitality	600	1,400
Newsletter printing	3,000	3,500
Photo Club Expenses	0	700
Postage	800	500
Project Perch	0	1,900
Rent (In-Kind)	3,000	3,000
Speakers (In-Kind)	1,100	1,100
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$14,800</b>	<b>\$23,700</b>

### Education

Conferences	2,000	2,000
Conservation	500	500
Everglades Day Sponsor	2,500	2,500
Festivals & Exhibits	600	1,000
Green Schools	500	500
Lectures & School Programs	1,000	250
Library	600	600
Pathfinders Award	4,700	3,000
Conservation Classes	0	3,300
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$12,400</b>	<b>\$13,650</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES**            **\$33,750**            **\$41,950**  
**NET (INCOME – EXPENSE)\***    **-\$8,350**            **-\$9,975**

*\*The shortfall in the budget will be funded from our savings. We received a substantial donation a few years ago that is invested but available for us to use to support our programs.*

March 2017

**Budget**  
**2016-17**            **Proposed**  
**2017-18**

### INCOME

Donations	\$6,000	\$6,000
Ebay & Other	1,100	1,575
Field Trips-Income	3,000	3,300
Investment	3,500	2,500
Membership	6,000	8,000
National Audubon	2,700	2,700
Photo Club-Income	0	975
Classes	0	2,700
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$22,300</b>	<b>\$27,875</b>

### IN-KIND INCOME

Speakers	1,100	1,100
Rent	3,000	3,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$4,100</b>	<b>\$4,100</b>

**TOTAL INCOME**            **\$26,400**            **\$31,975**

### EXPENSES

#### Administration

Accounting	\$2,600	\$1,000
Fund Raising & Fees	550	550
Insurance	1,800	1,800
Office Supplies/Storage	1,600	1,250
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$6,550</b>	<b>\$4,600</b>

#### Programs

ASE Brochure	1,300	2,300
ASE Official Business Exp	0	1,000

## ASE NOTICES and OPPORTUNITIES:

### Volunteers are needed

**April 22 Earth Day at Okeehetee Nature Center.** Volunteers are needed to take shifts from 9:00 to 1:00 and 12:30 to 4:30 or all day! Please contact Vicki Rogerson ([vrogerson@gmail.com](mailto:vrogerson@gmail.com)).

**April 22 Lake Worth Earth Day, 10:00 to 6:00.** Volunteer with Debbie Smith ([hnybear3@juno.com](mailto:hnybear3@juno.com)) for several hours.

### Photographers

Please send your best bird photographs to Sheila Hollihan-Elliott ([sheilaelliott@yahoo.com](mailto:sheilaelliott@yahoo.com)) for publication in the Audubon Society of the Everglades website and/or the Everglade Kite newsletter. Sandhill Crane for May and Snail Kite, our mascot, for June (Please note that the next issue of the Kite is MAY-JUNE combined)

### Citizen Science - Project Perch

We are beginning a new bird census of the (state of Florida designated as) threatened Florida Burrowing Owls in Palm Beach County. Have you seen these little owls within the past 12 months anywhere in our county? If you have, please contact Susan Davis ([susandavisdesign@gmail.com](mailto:susandavisdesign@gmail.com)) with location of your sighting and any observation details so we can follow up.

### ASE Field Trips continued...

22 Sat (3:30p-7p) **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)**, Easy/Drive, **RR** (Susan McKemy) - **WAITLIST ONLY**

23 Sun (6:15a-10:30a) **DuPuis MA**, Challenging/Medium, Meet at Gate 1 (Chuck Weber)

23 Sun (8a-10a) **Spanish River Park**, Easy/Medium, \$ (Linda McCandless / Kathy Walters)

29 Sat (6:30a-12:30p) **Pelagic**, Easy/Sitting, \$, **RR** (Rick Schofield) - **SOLD OUT**

29 Sat (8a-12p) **Birch SP / Evergreen Cemetery** (with SFAS), Moderate/Long, \$ (Paddy Cunningham)

30 Sun (10a-1p) **Mounts Botanical Garden (Photographers Special)**, Easy/Short, \$, Close focusing camera suggested (Peter Lekos)

**Always check the web site calendar for details, registration links and last minute changes. Field trips listed in italics are new and/or unique.**

**\*\$ There is an associated cost; see website calendar for details**

**\*RR advance registration required. Trips, unless otherwise specified, are "Just Show Up."**

**Audubon Society of the Everglades**  
**Post Office Box 16914**  
**West Palm Beach, Florida**  
**33416-6914**

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Dated Material - DO NOT DELAY

The Everglades Kite is published 10 times a year by the Audubon Society of the Everglades, a 501c3 organization # 59-6019854. We gratefully accept any donations or bequests at <http://www.auduboneverglades.org/donate/>  
We offer Amazon Smile and eBay fundraising programs, as well as direct giving.

*Audubon Society of the Everglades general meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. (refreshment at 6:30) at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, located on Summit Blvd, near the intersection of Summit and Jog in West Palm Beach. The public is welcome to attend.*

## JOIN AUDUBON

## ASE APPLICATION

There are two ways to join **Audubon Society of the Everglades**.

**Chapter-Only Membership:** An annual membership that starts on January 1 and runs through the calendar year. **New members who join after Oct 1, 2016 and anyone who renews after that date are paid up until Dec.31, 2017.** All your membership dues are put to use supporting local projects and educational programs. You receive 10 issues of the Kite newsletter and priority for some special trips and events.

**National Audubon Society Membership:** It also includes membership in Florida Audubon and Audubon Society of the Everglades. You receive 6 issues of the Audubon magazine. Cost is \$20.00 a year. Please enclose a check for \$20.00, include our chapter code C9ZE000Z and mail it to: National Audubon Society, 225 Varick St., 7th floor, New York, NY 10014 Attn: Chance Muehleck.

**As a NAS member you will need to request that the Kite newsletter be emailed or mailed to you by contacting Gail Tomei. Call her at 561-969-7567 or email to [blackgrouper@comcast.net](mailto:blackgrouper@comcast.net).**

**Yes, I want to become a chapter-only member of ASE.**

Join us online at [auduboneverglades.org/membership](http://auduboneverglades.org/membership) and pay with a credit card.

**Or,** complete this form and mail your check to: Audubon Society of the Everglades, PO Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-6914

Please check one:

\$20 (Regular) \$15 (Student/Senior) \$25 (Household) \$50 (Patron)

Please accept my additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help the environment, and see the cost of printing and postage used for conservation and education instead; please send my Kite newsletter via email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_